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Message Text

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61
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 H-02 /019 W
---------- 040784
O R 310156Z MAR 75
FM AMCONSUL SURABAYA
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0566
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (WONG HO JIN)
SUBJECT: W/W WONG HO JIN

REFS: A. STATE 046968
B. SURABAYA 200
C. CAIRO 3146

CAIRO FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT LEGAL ADVISER HUANG (TDY)
DEPARTMENT FOR EA/IMS - INGRAHAM

1. MRS. WONG HO JIN IS ALIVE AND WELL, EXCEPT FOR DIFFICULTY WITH HER EYESIGHT, IN SEMARANG. FOLLOWING ARE DETAILS IN CASE.

2. REVEREND CLARENCE O'NEIL GRIFFIN, TO WHOM I HAD WRITTEN BEFORE GOING TO SEMARANG, MET ME ON ARRIVAL MARCH 26 AND LED ME TO MRS. WONG'S HOUSE. IT IS LOCATED AT JALAN KARANG WULAN BARAT 737A, ABOUT THREE BLOCKS FROM A BAPTIST CHURCH. I VERIFIED MRS. WONG'S IDENTITY FROM HER INDONESIAN RESIDENCE DOCUMENTS, WHICH WERE BONAFIDE AND DATED FROM 1962-73, FROM PHOTO-GRAPHS IN HER FAMILY ALBUM OF MR AND MRS HUANG IN AMERICA, AND FROM HER ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT HER BACKGROUND AND FAMILY. I GAVE HER THE EQUIVALENT OF US$300 IN RUPIAH, FOR WHICH SHE SIGNED TREASURY CHECK 157,911.
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3. MRS. WONG SAID SHE WAS IN GOOD HEALTH, EXCEPT FOR SLIGHT PAINS IN HER UPPER BACK, AND HER EYESIGHT. ONE EYE WAS SLIGHTLY GLAZED WITH WHAT MIGHT BE A CATARACT, WHILE THE OTHER WAS CLEAR. SHE WAS VERY CHIPPER AND ACTIVE DURING THE INTERVIEW, AND COULD SEE WELL ENOUGH TO GET AROUND THE HOUSE EASILY. HER DOCUMENTS INDICATED THAT SHE WAS BORN IN MAIJEN CHINA IN 1902 AND ARRIVED IN INDONESIA 1922. SHE SAID SHE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY REVISITED CHINA SEVERAL TIMES. HER HUSBAND, MR PHAN SHIONG YUN, PASSED AWAY IN 1964, AND SHE NOW LIVES WITH HER TWO SONS. BOTH SONS ARE MECHANICS, AND ONE WORKS AT HOME SO HE CAN TAKE CARE OF MRS. WONG. THE SON IS QUITE INDONESIANIZED. MRS. WONG ALSO HAS TWO DAUGHTERS LIVING IN CHINA.

4. MRS. WONG'S HOUSE IS A SMALL, CLEAN WOODEN SHACK IN AN ALLEYWAY, WITH SUFFICIENT FRESH WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES, BUT OTHERWISE QUITE GRIM. BOTH SHE AND HER SON WERE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR THE MONEY. SHE SAID SHE HAD ENOUGH FOOD AND WOULD NOW BE ABLE TO PURCHASE MEDICINE FOR HER EYES. WE ADVISED HER TO HAVE HER EYES EXAMINED AT A NEARBY CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL BUT I GOT THE IMPRESSION SHE WOULD USE TRADITIONAL FOLK MEDICINE AS WELL.

5. MRS. WONG SPEAKS ONLY A CHINESE DIALECT, AND CANNOT READ OR WRITE ANY ROMANIZED LANGUAGE. ALTHOUGH IN GOOD HEALTH, SHE PROBABLY SHOULD NOT TRAVEL ALONE, BECAUSE OF LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES AND UNFAMILIARITY WITH TRAVEL PROCEDURES. MOREOVER, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO OBTAIN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS IN TIME TO MEET MR. HUANG IN CAIRO. FOR THAT REASON I DID NOT SUGGEST THAT SHE CONSIDER TRAVELLING TO CAIRO, BUT MENTIONED INSTEAD THAT I WOULD BE REPORTING TO MR. HUANG, AND THAT SHE WOULD HEAR FURTHER FROM US THROUGH REVEREND GRIFFIN (WHOM WE CAN CONTACT BY PHONE). I TOOK SEVERAL PHOTO-GRAPHS OF MRS. WONG AND HER SON, WHICH I WILL SEND TO MR. HUANG'S WASHINGTON ADDRESS.

6. REVEREND GRIFFIN WAS EXTREMELY HELPFUL ON THIS CASE AND PROMISED TO LOOK AFTER MRS. WONG AND LET
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US KNOW IF ANY DIFFICULTIES DEVELOP. MR. HUANG MIGHT WISH TO WRITE AND THANK HIM. HIS FULL ADDRESS IS:
REVEREND CLARENCE O'NEIL GRIFFIN
SEMARANG STATION OF THE INDONESIAN BAPTIST MISSION
JALAN MENTERI SUPENO 8A
SEMARANG, CENTRAL JAVA.

7. INDONESIAN MAILS ARE NOT RELIABLE AND ALL COMMUNICATIONS

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ON THIS CASE SHOULD BE VIA THIS CONSULATE. WE WILL BE
HAPPY TO PROVIDE ANY FURTHER SERVICES REQUESTED.
HOWLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SURABA00207
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750110-0822
From: SURABAYA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975031/aaaaaaii.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 046968
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W WONG HO JIN
TAGS: CASC, (WONG HO JIN)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006